

# METRO *Life*

LIFE IN THE PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

The Portland Observer

SECTION  
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## Community Calendar

### PORTLAND SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET HEARINGS

Hundreds of teachers gone, music and PE out of the elementary schools, and eliminating athletics. Those are just some of the ideas talked about as the Portland School Board budget hearings continue next week. [Tuesday and Thursday (Feb. 15 & 17), beginning at 6:30 p.m.]. The district has to cut \$23-25 million next year and \$50 million for the 1995-96 school year. Those cuts must come from somewhere. Tuesday's public hearing at Madison High (2735 NE 82nd Ave.) combines small group discussions and general testimony in which parent, school staff and community members ask questions and offer comments and suggestions regarding the school district's proposed cuts. The Board continues budget discussion at a meeting Thursday at the Blanchard Education Service Center, located at 501 N. Dixon. Call Lew Frederick, director, Dept. of Public Information, at 331-3304 for details.

### SIX INMATES FROM SHERIDAN FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION SPEAK

What can a group of Wilson High students learn from a bunch of convicted felons? They can learn about choices - how their choices affect not only themselves, but their families and society; and how much their choices can cost, both themselves and the community. Six inmates from Sheridan Federal Correctional Institution speak at an all-school assembly Wednesday (Feb. 16) from 10-11:30 a.m. at Wilson, located at 1151 SW Vermont Street. Part of the school's Human Relations Month activities, the assembly will provide students with dramatic lessons about the importance of clear decision-making and respecting the right of others. For details, call Opal Chancler-Moore, Wilson Vice President, at 280-5280.

### PORTSMOUTH 2000 CAREER FAIR

That's not the only place to learn about becoming a doctor, police officer, nurse or artist. The possibilities are endless when Portsmouth Middle School students come face to face with some 80 professionals and other community members on Wednesday (Feb. 16) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Portsmouth 2000 Career Fair at the school (5103 N Willis Blvd.) Students will get insights and firsthand perspectives on careers in areas of health, public safety, law, service, construction, transportation, arts and business. This is more than a simple career day; students completed a survey of their career interests. Then their teachers matched them up with local professionals. Teachers and the other adults hope that this prepares students for the future and makes a strong connection between school and real life. Call Allison Couch or David Menely, Portsmouth Middle School, at 280-5666 for more information.

### FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

This is the time when many Portland students and their parents learn about African-American contributions in U.S. history and the community today. "Love Honors Diversity" is the theme for a week of activities Feb. 14-18 at Whitaker Middle School (5700 NE 39th). A "college bowl" Tuesday (Feb. 15) tests students knowledge of historical African-American figures. Ethnic Day Thursday (Feb. 17) features displays of artifacts from various countries. Performances by Jefferson High's choir highlight entertainment at an all-school assembly Friday (Feb. 18) at 10:30 a.m. Students art also will be display throughout the school. For details, contact Lucy Ellen Thomas, at 280-5620.

SUBMISSIONS: COMMUNITY CALENDAR INFORMATION MUST BE DATED TWO WEEKS AFTER THIS ISSUE'S PUBLICATION DATE

## Storytelling Workshop At Lewis & Clark

The Northwest Writing Institute Of Lewis & Clark College will sponsor a storytelling workshop with Opalanga D. Pugh beginning on Friday, Feb. 25, from 8 to 9:30pm, in the Agnes Flanagan Chapel, 0615 SW Palatine Hill Road. The Friday performance is free and open to the public.

The workshop will continue on Saturday, Feb. 26, from 9am to 5pm, and on Sunday, Feb. 27, from 10am to 1pm. The cost of the workshop is \$200 and earns one-quarter-hour of credit.

Denver native Pugh was introduced to the story telling tradition while living in Nigeria, West Africa, as an exchange student. She worked in various fields including mass communications, public relations and audio-visual and video productions.

Pugh has been traveling for the past 10 years nationally and internationally, sharing and collecting stories from numerous cultures, hosting ceremonies and conducting workshops in 20 states. Pugh received the Mayors Award for Excellence in the Arts in 1990.

The workshop includes a collection of games, songs and emphasis on stories as the transmitter of family and cultural values. Participants will also have opportunities to express themselves in language, song and movement, use imagination and explore family folklore and personal myths. Pugh often accompanies her stories with percussion instruments and songs.

In West Africa, storytellers are called "Griots" or "Jali," which means Guardians of the World. They are viewed as members of the artisan class along with blacksmiths and goldsmiths. Pugh has taken an active interest in pro-



Opalanga D. Pugh

moting the tradition of story telling in America.

"Inside her mind is a world of wisdom and laughter. She opens wide her soul, and the folk heroes of a hundred stories step forth and say hello!" wrote Patricia Raybon, Rocky Mountain News.

"Opalanga has a high amount of pres-

ence and calm control. Her stories are delivered with spirit and show insight into human nature," said Leslie Fusick of the adolescent psychiatric unit, Mercy Medical Center.

For more information on registering for the workshop, contact the Northwest Writing Institute at (503) 768-7745.

## Mrs Lolita Darby: For The Love Of Science

### BY PROMISE KING

She exude a characteristic toughness and a no nonsense mien of a disciplinarian in her mannerism and carries in her face, the elegance of a seasoned politician. She is revolutionary in her thoughts and in her mission. She is Mrs. Lolita Darby. The new regional coordinator of the National-Hand-On-Science-Outreach (H.O.S.O.)

The H.O.S.O. program is an after school science program designed to give young students "hands-on" experience in science, particularly among minority and female students.

The Hands-On-Science has been in operation since 1985 but its operations have been confined to the east coast. Mrs. Darby before now has served as a volunteer coordinator for her program at M.L.K. Elementary school for two years. Her new role as regional co-ordinator will entail recruiting more volunteer teachers and working hand-in-hand with the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) the program local sponsors.

Mrs. Lolita Darby, who is a teacher herself, has a big vision for the HOSO. "I like to see Hands-On-Science in every school that has a high minority population, whether they are African-American, Asia or Hispanic." The Regional Co-ordinator also want to see



Mrs. Lolita Darby: Coordinator - NW National Hands-On-Science Outreach (HOSO)

all inner city schools in Portland adopt her program. "I want these kids to realize that science can be fun and learning and to wake up to the reality that every day we wake-up, we are involved in multitude of scientific activities."

## Black America Needs To Change Direction, Activists Say

A new generation of African-American leadership will outline its own vision for black America with the release of a comprehensive report and set of proposals at a press conference that was held at the National Press Club on Thursday, January 6.

The report, "Black America 1994: Changing Direction" assesses and proposes new solutions for the most persistent problems facing the black community: economic stagnation, rampant crime, welfare dependency, poor schools, and the disintegration of the black family.

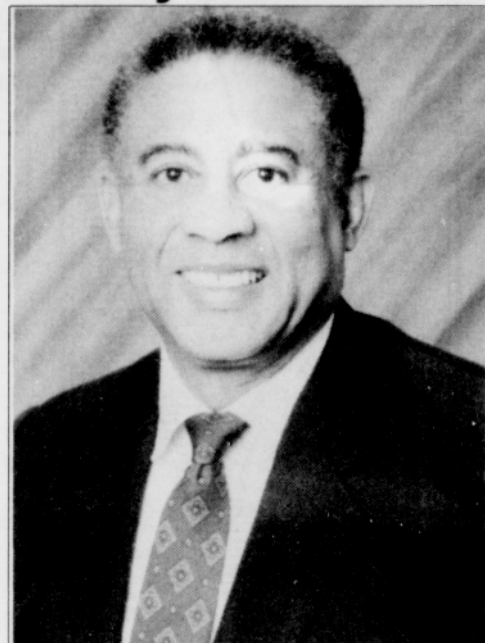
"This report is going to change the way politicians and civic leaders look at the black community. We recognize that it's a time for the black leadership to change gears. The government-intensive approach that was needed to bring about equality in civil rights is just not working when it comes to real economic empowerment and preserving the black family," says Raynard Jackson, a chief contributor to the report, published by The National Center for Public Policy research, a non-partisan Washington-based think tank.

Jackson, a native of St. Louis, notes that the report was written by activists working at

the local level. "This report isn't the result of a bunch of social engineers sitting around a conference table somewhere inside the Capital Beltway. Many of the contributors to this report are the people who actually have to deal with the problems that too many politicians just talk about."

Contributors to the report calls theirs an "empowerment" agenda. "We have to recognize that the old system of mandates and entitlement has failed. An 'empowerment' agenda recognizes that only businesses create real jobs, families work, and people will strive to improve their standard of living if they're

## Ward Named United Way Chairman



James Ward, Ph.D.

James Ward, Ph.D., has been named chairman of the board for United Way of the Columbia-Willamette.

Ward, dean of the Graduate School of Social Work at Portland State University, was elected at the organization's 74th Annual Meeting held Wednesday at The Benson Hotel.

Michael Morgan, an attorney at Tonkon Torp Galen Marmaduke & Booth, was appointed Treasurer; and Miltie Vega-Lloyd, personnel manager at KPTV, was named secretary.

Additionally, several individuals were elected to their first three-year term as United Way board members. Board members are responsible for determining the strategic goals of the organization, formulating policies, and approving and monitoring its finances. New members include:

- Jane H. Barber, President, Barber Associates
  - Neva T.I Campbell, Partner, Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt
  - David Chen, President and CEO, American Pacific Bank
  - Ron Fortune, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Northwest Oregon Labor Council
  - Commissioner Darlene Hooley, Chief Executive Officer, Clackamas County Board of Directors
  - David L. Hopkins, Payroll Manager, Freightliner Corporation
  - Yvonne Katz, Ph.D. Superintendent, Beaverton School district 48
  - Gerald McFadden, President and CEO, Volunteers of America
  - Jill B. Nichols, Executive Director, American Red Cross-Oregon Trail Chapter
  - Diana Snowden, Senior Vice President, Pacific Division Operations, Pacific Power and Light
  - Timothy Thorsteinson, Vice president, Total Quality and Human Resources, Tektronix, Inc.
- United Way of the Columbia-Willamette collects and distributes money in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties in Oregon and in Clark County, Washington. Donations from local residents fund more than 180 human service programs in this area, including child care and after-school activities for children, emergency services for families, and health care for low-income and elderly individuals.